

11 0 000 MAR 73

S E C R E T 110420Z MAR 73 [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1 CITE SAIGON [REDACTED]

25X1 TO: HEADQUARTERS.

25X1 [REDACTED]
25X1 REF HEADQUARTERS [REDACTED]

IN VIEW OF SPECIFIC REQUEST CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 7 OF
REF AND WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION OF MERITS OF ISSUE, YOU
WILL BE PLEASED TO HEAR THAT EMBASSY THROUGH ROGER CHANNEL
CONCURS IN ASSIGNMENT OF DIA PERSONNEL TO CONSULATES.

E2 IMPDET WN-SISM.

S E C R E T

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25X1 ORIG: GACarver, Jr. Approved For Release 2004/12/02 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000800050038-4
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25X1 369
25X1 PRIORITY SAIGON

CITE HEADQUARTERS

25X1 REFS: A. HEADQUARTERS

25X1 B. SAIGON

1. SITUATION DISCUSSED REFS INVOLVES BAD BUREAUCRATIC SNARL -- PARTLY BETWEEN STATE AND DEFENSE, LARGELY WITHIN DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ITSELF -- COMPOUNDED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE PERHAPS INEVITABLE PROBLEM IN TRANS-OCEANIC COMMUNICATIONS.

2. TWO POINTS ARE GERMANE FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL BACKGROUND. FIRST, NO ONE HERE SUFFERS UNDER THE DELUSION THAT A HANDFUL OF CIVILIANS WITH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BACKGROUNDS CAN PROVIDE THE INTELLIGENCE COVERAGE THAT WAS PRODUCED BY MACV'S DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE PLUS THE MACV ADVISORY SYSTEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, DECISION WAS TAKEN -- AND RATIFIED AT HIGHEST LEVELS -- TO DO BEST POSSIBLE

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

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TO

PAGE TWO

OBSERVATIONAL JOB WITH PROVINCIAL OBSERVER CORPS AND TO
SALT THAT CORPS WITH A FEW QUALIFIED MILITARY OBSERVERS
WHO WOULD HANDLE AS MUCH AS THEY COULD OF THE ~~XXX~~ OBSERVATIONAL
CHORES RELATING TO MILITARY ACTIVITY. THUS, THE CONCEPT OF A
SMALL NUMBER OF SUCH PEOPLE FUNCTIONING AS INTEGRAL
MEMBERS OF THE OBSERVER GROUP WORKING OUT OF THE FOUR
CONSULATES GENERAL UNDER GEORGE JACOBSEN'S OVERALL AEGIS
WAS A KEY ELEMENT OF THE OVERALL COLLECTION PROGRAM
UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED BY THE WSAG ON 28 NOVEMBER AND

APPROVED PERSONALLY BY [REDACTED]

3. SECONDLY, THE STAFFING PATTERN FOR DRSTO -- FOR
REASONS WE DO NOT ENTIRELY UNDERSTAND -- HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT
OF A FIERCE INTERNECINE BATTLE WITHIN THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT.
IN THIS FIGHT, GREAT ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE VIEWS
OF MACV, EVEN THOUGH MACV IS BEING PHASED OUT AND WILL NOT

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CITE HEADQUARTER

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BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATING THE POST X PLUS 60 STRUCTURE THAT IS BEING BUILT. (A ROUGH IN-HOUSE ANALOGUE WOULD HAVE BEEN A MASSIVE REORGANIZATION OF VIETNAM STATION JUST PRIOR TO YOUR TAKING CHARGE, WITH GREAT WEIGHT BEING GIVEN TO THE PREFERENCES OF YOUR PREDECESSOR -- WHO WOULD NOT HAVE TO RUN THE STRUCTURE BEING SET UP -- RATHER THAN THE PREFERENCES OR FEELINGS OF YOU WHO WOULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE NEW STRUCTURE'S PERFORMANCE.) THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED BY PAROCHIAL PRESSURES WITHIN THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT FROM LOGISTICIANS WHO CAN SEE ONLY THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR END USE TYPE CERTIFICATIONS AND OFTEN SEEM TO IGNORE THE LARGER, MORE CENTRAL QUESTION OF WHAT ARE THE NATIONAL INTEREST REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL HAVE TO BE MET BY A FINITE POOL OF 50 UNIFORMED OFFICERS AND 1,200 DEFENSE DEPARTMENT CIVILIANS, WITH THE LATTER PROBABLY

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CITE HEADQUARTERS

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PAGE FIVE

AT A JANUARY WSAG, WITH THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING -- CONCURRED
IN BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND THE CHAIRMAN
OF THE JCS -- THAT THIS INCREASE OF 300 WOULD BE USED, IN
PART, TO ENSURE THAT DAO/DRSTO HAD AN ADEQUATELY MANNED
INTELLIGENCE CONTINGENT. SINCE THEN, HOWEVER, THE LOGISTICIANS
IN WASHINGTON AND MACV HAVE CONTINUED MERRILY SLICING AWAY,
LEAVING OUR DIA COLLEAGUES IN A CONTINUAL QUANDARY.

5. IN THIS SITUATION, DIA HAS APPEALED TO US -- AS THE
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DCI IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF THE
COMMUNITY -- FOR HELP. RESPONDING TO THE LEGITIMATE ASPECTS
OF THIS APPEAL WE (A) INDUCED [] TO CUT ITS STAFFING
BACK TO 130 [] HQS STILL USES THE 161 FIGURE, BUT THEY
PLAN ON INITIAL MANNING AT THE 130 LEVEL AND, THOUGH THEY
ARE RELUCTANT TO ADMIT IT, ^{They} HAVE IN FACT CUT BACK BY 31
SPACES), []

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COORDINATING OFFICERS

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CITE HEADQUARTERS

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TO
25X1

BY THESE MOVES (PLUS PICKING UP 3-6 FAST

PASS OFFICERS WITHIN THE STATION) WE HAVE GIVEN DIA THE HEADROOM
IT NEEDS TO MAN, UNDER YOUR OVERALL AEGIS (PER NSCID 5) THE
MINIMAL MILITARY STRUCTURE REQUIRED AS PART OF THE OVERALL
COLLECTION PROGRAM FOR WHICH THE COMMUNITY, AS A WHOLE,
IS RESPONSIBLE TO

25X1

6. THE RECEPTIVITY OF DIA AND NOT TO MENTION

25X1

STATE, TO DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE IS AN ENCOURAGING
DEVELOPMENT WE ARE ANXIOUS TO NURTURE AND SEE EXTENDED.
IT OBVIOUSLY HAS RAMIFICATIONS GOING FAR BEYOND VIETNAM OR
INDOCHINA. FOR THIS REASON, WE ARE VERY ANXIOUS FOR CONCESSIONS

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CITE HEADQUARTERS [REDACTED]

TO

PAGE SEVEN

BY ONE MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENT, E.G., STATE, WHICH WE HAVE NEGOTIATED ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER COMMUNITY COMPONENT (E.G., DIA) NOT TO COME UNSTUCK. THE SYMBOLIC IMPORT OF OUR BEING ABLE TO DO THIS IN SOME WAYS GOES CONSIDERABLY BEYOND THE INTRINSIC LOCAL MERITS OF THE PARTICULAR MATTER IN QUESTION (E.G., TEN SLOTS).

7. WE ARE NOT DISPUTING THE SAIGON ARGUMENTS ABOUT WHETHER DIA'S TEN OBSERVER CIVILIANS NEED TO BE, OR SHOULD BE, [REDACTED] IN LIGHT OF THE SITUATION AND EQUITIES INVOLVED HERE, HOWEVER, WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY STEPS YOU FEEL YOU CAN PROFITABLY TAKE TO HELP MAKE STICK AN ARRANGEMENT WE HAVE NEGOTIATED WITH STATE ON DIA'S BEHALF.

E-2, IMPDET. [REDACTED] END OF MESSAGE

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[REDACTED]

George A. Carver, Jr.
SAVA

DC/FE [REDACTED]

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George A. Carver, Jr.
SAVA

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CITE SAIGON

TO: HEADQUARTERS.

REF: HEADQUARTERS

1. EMBASSY DID NOT VETO PROPOSAL FOR TEN DOD CIVILIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SPECIALISTS TO BE ADDED TO CONSULATES, BUT IN SAIGON 3447 ROGER CHANNEL DATED 3 MARCH EXPRESSED SERIOUS RESERVATIONS THAT SUCH PERSONNEL WOULD BE ABLE TO ADD SIGNIFICANTLY TO REPORTING CAPACITY OF SIZEABLE STAFF ALREADY DEPLOYED IN CONSULATES GENERAL. MESSAGE STATED THAT NO COMBINATION OF POSE-CEASE FIRE MECHANISMS COULD POSSIBLY REPLACE FLOW OF INTELLIGENCE WHICH WAS POSSIBLE WHEN MACV DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE NUMBERED IN THOUSANDS AND THERE WERE U.S. MILITARY ADVISORS DOWN TO DISTRICT AND REGIMENTAL LEVELS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, BUT ALSO NOTED THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH COVERAGE.

2. EMBASSY STATED THAT TASKS ENVISAGED FOR DOD COLLECTORS ARE NOT OF COMPELLING PRIORITY. EMBASSY DID NOT WISH FOR CLOSE POSSIBILITY THAT ADDITIONAL REPORTING MIGHT BE REQUIRED AND

PAGE 2 SAIGON S E C R E T

SUGGESTED THAT DECISION BE POSTPONED FOR ABOUT 90 DAYS BY WHICH TIME CONSULATES GENERAL AND NEW DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE WILL HAVE HAD TIME TO SHAKE DOWN. EMBASSY SAID IF REPORTING GAPS ARE PERCEIVED AT THAT TIME "WE SHALL NOT HESITATE TO ASK FOR ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONS WHOSE PARTICULAR SKILLS WOULD ASSIST IN OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM."

3. EMBASSY'S MESSAGE WAS DISCUSSED IN DRAFT WITH GENERAL WEYAND WHO SAY NO REASON FOR PROPOSED ASSIGNMENT. MESSAGE WAS FORMALLY COORDINATED WITH MAJOR GENERAL MURRY, DEFENSE ATTACHE DESIGNATE.

4. FYI: DIA'S PROBLEMS OF GETTING SLOTS IN DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE IS ENTIRELY AN INTERNAL PROBLEM OF DEFENSE DEPARTMENT. DAO CEILING WAS ESTABLISHED AT 50 MILITARY AND 1200 CIVILIANS. SUBSEQUENTLY DEFENSE DEPARTMENT MADE INTERNAL DECISION THAT ONLY ABOUT 900 OF 1200 AUTHORIZED SLOTS WOULD BE FILLED. THIS REDUCTION BY SOME 300 SLOTS HAS CUT THE PROPOSED INTELLIGENCE PARTICIPATION IN THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE. IF TEN DIA PERSONNEL FOR CONSULATES GENERAL REALLY NEEDED, ALL DEFENSE HAS TO DO IS UP THE CEILING OF DAO BY TEN SLOTS. WE SEE NO REASON TO PLACE THESE PEOPLE

PAGE 3 SAIGON 3185 S E C R E T

25X1

5. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 3 REF, "ESSENTIAL POINTS OF CONTACT WITH LOCAL VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS" WILL OF COURSE BE THE CONSULS GENERAL, ASSISTED BY GEORGE JACKSON'S PEOPLE AND OUR OWN PERSONNEL. WE CERTAINLY DO NOT EXPECT TO DELEGATE THAT FUNCTION TO DIA PERSONNEL. PROVINCIAL OBSERVER GUIDES NOT YET RECEIVED.

6. WITH RESPECT PARA FIVE REF, WE CANNOT AGREE THAT TEN DIA CIVILIANS IN FOUR DIFFERENT LOCATIONS WOULD BE "ESSENTIAL ELEMENT" IN SUCCESS OF PROVINCIAL COLLECTION EFFORT. THIS IS NO REFLECTION ON CANDIDATES FOR POSITION, MERELY ILLUSTRATION OF FACTS OF LIFE THAT IN TERMS OF TOTALITY OF U.S. REPORTING FROM VIETNAM, TEN PEOPLE IN FOUR LOCATIONS WOULD NOT MAKE THAT MUCH DIFFERENCE. STATION, FOR EXAMPLE HAS LOST NEARLY ONE THIRD OF ITS OPERATIONS OFFICER SLOTS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS WITH VERY LITTLE REAL LOSS OF PRODUCTION. SPECIFICALLY FROM 260 IN FISCAL 71 WE ARE DOWN TO 186 FOR FISCAL 73.

7. OUR OWN INCLINATION WOULD BE TO LET MATTER RIDE. IF GENERALS WEYAND AND MURRY SEE NO NEED FOR CONTEMPLATED

PAGE 4 SAIGON [] S E C R E T

COVERAGE, I DON'T SEE WHY WE SHOULD PUSH IT, PARTICULARLY IN
LIGHT OF DIRECTOR [] WHICH STATED THAT NEGOTIATIONS RE
STATUS OF INDIVIDUALS IN QUESTION "STRICTLY BETWEEN STATE AND
DOD" AND "WE WOULD NOT HAVE AGREED TO INTEGRATE INTO SAIGON
IF APPROACHED TO DO SO." E2 IMPDET WN-SISM

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CITE HEADQUARTERS [REDACTED]

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25X1 TO SAIGON [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

1. *we* HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY [REDACTED] THAT [REDACTED] HAS

25X1

25X1 VETOED PROPOSAL FOR TEN [REDACTED] CIVILIANS FOR THE PROVINCIAL
OBSERVER CORPS. WE ARE TOLD THAT HE NOTED THAT THERE HAS
BEEN NO DEARTH OF REPORTING AND THAT HE HAS CAPABLE

25X1 [REDACTED] OFFICERS IN THE CONSULATES. ACCORDING TO OUR
SOURCE, HE DID, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT HE WOULD REVIEW THE
MATTER IN 90 DAYS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THESE TEN

CIVILIANS COULD/SHOULD BE PLACED [REDACTED]

25X1

2. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THIS ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ [REDACTED]
DECISION GENERATES SERIOUS PROBLEMS AT THIS END. [REDACTED]
PARTICIPATION IN OBSERVER CORPS WAS PART OF TOTAL INTELLIGENCE
PACKAGE DEVELOPED BY WORKING GROUP C. DEVELOPMENT OF THIS
PACKAGE INVOLVED LENGTHY AND DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN
THE COMMUNITY IN AN EFFORT TO HAVE ALL PARTICIPANTS PULL

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25X1

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25X1 TOGETHER UNDER THE CHIEF, [] AEGIS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY

25X1 TRUE SINCE THE [] INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM HAS SUBSEQUENTLY

SUFFERED FROM THE DEMAND FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF LOGISTICIANS

UNDER THE DRSTO. THUS, OVER THE SHORT TERM, [] HAS

PROBLEMS IN OBTAINING NEEDED INTELLIGENCE SLOTS WITHIN THE

DRSTO AND, OVER THE LONG RUN, PROBLEMS IN HAVING QUALIFIED

PERSONNEL IN-COUNTRY UNDER APPROPRIATE COVER.

25X1

3. IN AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE THE STATION FROM OBSERVATIONAL, OVERT TYPE REPORTING, AN INTEGRAL AND IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF THE GROUP C PACKAGE WAS THE PROVINCIAL OBSERVER CORPS, ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE EMBASSY. DURING THE GROUP C DELIBERATIONS, IT WAS INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT THIS COLLECTION EFFORT WOULD PERFORM AN INVALUABLE ROLE IN ASSESSING BOTH SIDES' COMPLIANCE WITH THE CEASE-FIRE. THESE OBSERVERS WERE TO BE THE U.S. EYEBALLS ON THE GROUND AS WELL AS ESSENTIAL

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POINTS OF CONTACT WITH LOCAL VIETNAMESE OFFICIALDOM. THE TYPES OF INFORMATION THEY ARE EXPECTED TO COLLECT WERE INCLUDED IN THE PROVINCIAL OBSERVER GUIDES RECENTLY TRANSMITTED TO YOU.

4. THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE OBSERVERS, OF COURSE, IS POLITICAL REPORTING, BUT, AS YOU WILL NOTE IN THE REPORTING GUIDES, THERE IS A HEAVY SPRINKLING OF DATA DESIRED ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES. WORKING GROUP C, THUS, AGREED THAT IN A CEASE-FIRE ENVIRONMENT, THERE WOULD BE AN ACUTE NEED FOR MILITARY INPUTS IN ORDER TO KEEP THE OVERALL PROVINCIAL COVERAGE IN BALANCE. THROUGHOUT GROUP C'S DISCUSSIONS, IT WAS ACCEPTED THAT SOME TEN [] CIVILIANS WITH APPROPRIATE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BACKGROUNDS WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE CONSULATES GENERAL TO PERFORM THIS NEEDED TASK.

5. THE TEN [] CIVILIANS IN QUESTION, THEREFORE,

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CITE HEADQUARTERS

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WERE TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE PROVINCIAL COLLECTION EFFORT AND AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT, IN OUR VIEW, IF IT WERE TO BE SUCCESSFUL. AS ANTICIPATED, OUR OBSERVATIONAL COVERAGE OF MILITARY ACTION IN THE PROVINCES, ESPECIALLY ARVN ACTIVITIES, HAS FALLEN OFF SHARPLY AS THE MILITARY ADVISORY STRUCTURE HAS BEEN DISMANTLED AND WITHDRAWN. THIS SHORTFALL CAN BEST BE RECTIFIED BY THE DEPLOYMENT OF APPROPRIATELY TRAINED AND QUALIFIED MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OBSERVERS.

25X1

6. SINCE THE TEN [REDACTED] CIVILIANS WHO WERE TO HANDLE THE BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR MILITARY OBSERVATION SHOULD BE WORKING OUT OF THE CONSULATES GENERAL, AND IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE EMBASSY MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL

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COLLECTION EFFORT, [REDACTED]

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CITE HEADQUARTERS

PAGE FIVE

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FO

25X1 [] WE MANAGED TO GET THIS APPROACH ENDORSED BY
[] THOUGH DOING SO WAS NOT ALL THAT EASY. OUR ABILITY
25X1 TO OBTAIN THE [] SLOTS FOR THESE OBSERVERS, IN TURN,
GREATLY EASED THE PROBLEMS OF OUR [] COLLEAGUES AND
25X1 HAS MADE THEM RECEPTIVE TO [] GUIDANCE AND DIRECTION
IN OTHER SPHERES.

25X1

7. IF [] SHOOTS DOWN THESE TEN SLOTS, WE LOSE
CONSIDERABLE FACE. FURTHERMORE, A RATHER INTRICATE SET OF
INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIPS CAREFULLY PUT TOGETHER HERE
RUNS THE RISK OF COMING UNSTUCK. ALSO, WE UNDERSTAND THAT
ONE OF THE REASONS ADVANCED BY [] FOR REJECTING
THESE TEN AS NOT NEEDED WAS THAT THE STATION COULD HANDLE
THE OBSERVATIONAL CHORES WITH WHICH THEY WOULD BE TASKED.
ONE OF OUR PRIME OBJECTIVES IN THIS ~~XXXX~~ WHOLE EXERCISE,
HOWEVER, WAS TO GET YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES AS DISENCUMBERED

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AS POSSIBLE FROM ESSENTIALLY OVERT REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES.

8. GIVEN ABOVE, WE ARE IN A QUANDRY ON WHICH WE
SOLICIT YOUR ADVICE AND GUIDANCE. WE OBVIOUSLY WANT TO
GET RNDICTATE TO CHANGE HIS POSITION BUT ARE NOT SURE HOW
BEST TO PROCEED, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE CERTAINLY DO NOT
WISH TO CREATE OTHER PROBLEMS (FOR YOU OR FOR US) IN THE
PROCESS OF TRYING TO SOLVE THIS ONE. YOUR COMMENTS AND
SUGGESTIONS ON HOW THIS PROBLEM CAN BEST BE APPROACHED AND
RESOLVED ARE THEREFORE URGENTLY SOLICITED.

END OF MESSAGE

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SAVA

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